

Application No.: 09/741,684

Amendment and Response dated: August 25, 2006

Reply to Office Action dated: April 25, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 7-12 and 19-30 are pending in the application. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR §1.83(a). Claims 7-12 and 19-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 7-11, 19-23 and 25-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Albrecht et al., hereinafter ("Albrecht") (US 5,821,494). Claims 12, 24 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over either Albrecht et al. or Ainslie et al., hereinafter ("Ainslie"). Claims 1-6 were previously cancelled. Claims 7-12 are hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore, the objections and 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection based on claim 7 (and its dependent claims, as appropriate) are moot. Claims 25 and 30 are amended to further clarify embodiments of the present application.

With regard to the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection of claim 19, the Office Action asserts it is not readily apparent what structure of the slider bonding pad permits re-use. See Office Action dated 4/25/2006, paragraph 4. Applicants submit this is an improper rejection, as it is readily apparent from both the claim and the specification it is not a *structure* of the bonding pad permitting such re-use, but rather the bonding pad itself ("...wherein the slider bonding pad enables the reuse of the *suspension* by removing the connection between a slider and the slider bonding pad with heat treatment".) See Specification page 3, lines 4-6.

With regard to the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection of currently amended claim 25, Applicants submit clarification sufficient to overcome the current rejection may be

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found at least at page 3, lines 28-33 of the specification. The current § 112, second paragraph rejections should be withdrawn.

Applicants further submit the cited references do not teach, suggest or describe at least “[a] suspension comprising ... wherein the slider bonding pad enables the reuse of the suspension by removing the connection between a slider and the slider bonding pad with heat treatment” (e.g., as described in claim 19).

The Office Action asserts Albrecht describes the relevant limitation of claim 19, yet does not include any citation to a section in Albrecht describing at least the above limitation. *See* Office Action 4/25/2006, paragraph 6. Although Albrecht is generally directed toward the disk drive art, it does not describe at least a feature wherein the slider bonding pad enables the reuse of the suspension by removing the connection between a slider and the slider bonding pad with heat treatment. Since in order to support a proper § 102(b) rejection, each and every limitation must be taught or suggested in the cited reference, the current rejection is lacking and should be withdrawn. Claims 20-23 are allowable as depending from an allowable independent claim.

Applicants submit the cited references do not teach, suggest or describe at least “[a] suspension comprising ... wherein bonding substance of the suspension further comprises several bonding bumps for bonding the suspension and a slider connection circuit” (e.g., as described in amended claim 25).

Similar to the rejection immediately above, the Office Action asserts Albrecht or Ainslie describe the limitation of claim 24, yet does not include any citation to a section in Albrecht or Ainslie describing at least the above limitation. *See* Office Action 4/25/2006, paragraph 6.

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Although both references are generally directed toward the disk drive art, neither includes at least a feature wherein the bonding substance of the suspension further comprises several bonding bumps for bonding the suspension and a slider connection circuit. Since in order to support a proper §103(a) rejection, each and every limitation must be taught or suggested in the cited references, the current rejection is lacking and should be withdrawn. Claims 25-30 are allowable as depending from an allowable independent claim.

It is believed that this Amendment places the application in condition for allowance, and early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

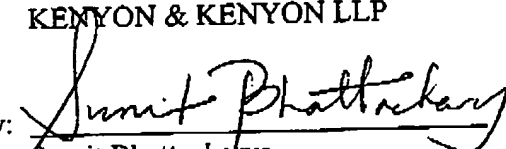
If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON LLP

Dated: August 25, 2006

By: 
Sumit Bhattacharya
(Reg. No. 51,469)

KENYON & KENYON LLP
333 West San Carlos St., Suite 600
San Jose, CA 95110

Telephone: (408) 975-7500
Facsimile: (408) 975-7501